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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/883,619	06/18/2001	Robert Martin Wynalda JR.	1949-A-CIP	5116
45069	7590	04/03/2006	EXAMINER	
FRED ZOLLINGER III P.O. BOX 2368 NORTH CANTON, OH 44720			SIMONE, CATHERINE A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1772	

DATE MAILED: 04/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/883,619	WYNALDA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Catherine Simone	1772	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 January 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-15,23 and 26-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-15,23 and 26-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 7-15, 23, 26-29 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The recitation “the V-shaped edge being indented into the page to define the pocket for the adhesive” in claim 7 and the recitation “non-pivotably” in claims 27 and 35 are deemed new matter. The specification, as originally filed, does not provide support for the invention as is now claimed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brinkhurst (GB 2 274 452 A).

Brinkhurst discloses a storage container for holding items of recorded media, the storage container comprising a paperboard cover (see page 5, lines 26-27) having a front cover member (Fig. 4, #11), a rear cover member (Fig. 4, #12) and an outer spine (Fig. 4, #8) disposed between the front and rear cover members; the spine being a unitary body having an outer surface and an inner surface (Fig. 4, #8); at least the outer surface of the outer spine being exposed for viewing when the cover is closed; a substantially rigid plastic page (Fig. 4, #13; also see page 6, lines 25-27) adapted to hold a pair of disc-shaped items of recorded media (see page 6, lines 16-25); the page having at least one edge connected to the inner surface of the outer spine with an adhesive to connect the page to the cover (see page 4, line 26 to page 5, line 2); and the page having first and second page halves (see page 6, lines 21-25); the first and second page halves having been separately formed and non-pivotably joined together to form the substantially rigid plastic page (see page 6, lines 21-25); each of the page halves having a disc holding hub adapted to hold a disc-shaped item of recorded media (see page 6, lines 6-9 and 14-21).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brinkhurst (GB 2 274 452 A) in view of McKowen (US 3,244,436).

Brinkhurst discloses a storage container for holding items of recorded media, the storage container comprising a cover having a front cover member (Fig. 4, #11), a rear cover member (Fig. 4, #12) and a spine (Fig. 4, #8) disposed between the front and rear cover members; a page (Fig. 4, #13) having a structure adapted to hold at least one item of recorded media (see page 6, lines 6-9); the page having at least one edge; the edge of the page being connected to the spine with an adhesive to connect the page to the cover (see page 4, line 26 to page 5 line 7); the front and rear cover members being moveable between open and closed positions; each page being adapted to hold two items of recorded media (see page 6, lines 15-25); each page including two page halves connected together; each page being substantially rigid (see page 6, lines 21-27); and the cover being fabricated from paperboard (see page 5, lines 26-27). However, Brinkhurst fails to disclose the edge of the page connected to the cover being V-shaped in cross section to provide a pocket for the adhesive and the V-shaped edge being indented into the page to define the pocket for the adhesive. McKowen teaches that it is old and well-known in the art to have the edge of a page being V-shaped in cross section (Fig. 1, #12) to provide a pocket for an adhesive (Fig. 1, #18) and the V-shaped edge being indented into the page (Fig. 1, #12) to define the pocket for the adhesive in order to connect the page to the spine of a book cover. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicants invention was made to have modified the edge of the page in Brinkhurst to be V-shaped in cross-section to provide a pocket for the adhesive and have the V-shaped edge being indented into the page to define the pocket for the adhesive as suggested by McKowen in order to connect the page to the spine of the cover.

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7. Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brinkhurst (GB 2 274 452 A) in view of McKowen (US 3,244,436) in view of Youngs (US 4,850,731).

Brinkhurst and McKowen teach the storage container as detailed above. However, Brinkhurst fails to disclose the page halves being connected together with locking fingers wherein each locking finger is disposed in a pocket to protect the locking finger. Youngs teaches that it is old and well-known in the analogous art to use locking fingers wherein each locking finger is disposed in a pocket to protect the locking finger (see Fig. 4 and col. 8, lines 7-10) for the purpose of securing page halves containing items of recorded media together and binding them to a cover. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicants invention was made to have used locking fingers to connect the page halves together in Brinkhurst as suggested by Youngs in order to secure the pages holding items of recorded media together and bind them to the cover.

8. Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brinkhurst (GB 2 274 452 A) in view of McKowen (US 3,244,436) in view of Udwin et al. (US 6,106,015).

Brinkhurst and McKowen teach the storage container as detailed above. However, Brinkhurst fails to disclose the page halves connected together with adhesive and with a weld. Udwin et al. teaches that it is old and well-known in the analogous art to use an adhesive and a weld to connect together page halves containing items of recorded media (see col. 6, lines 5-11 and 55-56) for the purpose of securing the page halves together and binding them to a cover. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicants invention was made to have used an adhesive and a weld to connect the page halves together in

Brinkhurst as suggested by Udwin et al. in order to secure the pages holding items of recorded media together and bind them to the cover.

9. Claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brinkhurst (GB 2 274 452 A) in view of McKowen (US 3,244,436) in view of Gelardi (US 5,799,782).

Brinkhurst and McKowen teach the storage container as detailed above. However, Brinkhurst fails to disclose a literature card abutting the planar portion of the rear surface of each page half and at least one of the page halves being substantially transparent. Gelardi teaches that it is old and well known in the analogous art to have transparent plastic page halves holding disc-shaped items of recorded media provided with four tabs projecting inward from the bottom edges of the side walls of the page halves in order to hold a booklet within the page halves (see col. 3, lines 14-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicants invention was made to have modified the page halves in Brinkhurst to be of transparent plastic and be provided with four tabs projecting inward from the bottom edges of the side walls of the page halves as suggested by Gelardi in order to hold a booklet or literature card such that the booklet or literature card abuts the planar portion of the rear surface of the page half holding the item of recorded media.

10. Claims 23 and 26-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brinkhurst (GB 2 274 452 A) in view of Gelardi (US 5,799,782).

Brinkhurst discloses a storage container for holding items of recorded media, the storage container comprising a paperboard cover (see page 5, lines 26-27) having a front cover member (Fig. 4, #11), a rear cover member (Fig. 4, #12) and an outer spine (Fig. 4, #8) disposed between the front and rear cover members; the spine being a unitary body having an outer surface and an

inner surface (Fig. 4, #8); at least the outer surface of the outer spine being exposed for viewing when the cover is closed; the front and rear cover members being moveable between open and closed positions; a plastic page (Fig. 4, #13; also see page 6, lines 25-27) having a structure adapted to hold two items of recorded media on opposite sides of the page (see page 6, lines 16-25); the page having at least one edge and an outer perimeter (Fig. 4, #13); the edge of the page being connected to the inner surface of the outer spine with an adhesive to connect the page to the cover (see page 4, line 26 to page 5, line 2); the page being free of connections with the front and rear covers; and the page having first and second page halves (see page 6, lines 21-25); the first and second page halves having been separately formed and non-pivotably joined together to form the substantially rigid plastic page (see page 6, lines 21-25); each of the page halves having a disc holding hub adapted to hold a disc-shaped item of recorded media (see page 6, lines 6-9) and a planar portion surrounding the disc holding hub (see Fig. 5). However, Brinkhurst fails to disclose the outer perimeter of the page being directly disposed between the front cover member and the rear cover member when the front and rear cover members are closed on the page and a literature card being disposed within the page between the first and second halves such that the literature card is disposed between the disc shaped items of record media when the disc-shaped items of recorded media are carried by the page halves. Gelardi teaches that it is well-known in the analogous art to have transparent plastic page halves holding disc-shaped items of recorded media provided with four tabs projecting inward from the bottom edges of the side walls of the page halves in order to hold a booklet within the page halves (see col. 3, lines 14-16) and the page being entirely disposed between front and rear cover members when the front and rear covers are closed on the page (see Fig. 13, #23 and #45). Therefore, it would have been obvious

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to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicants invention was made to have modified the page halves in Brinkhurst to be of transparent plastic and be provided with four tabs projecting inward from the bottom edges of the side walls of the page halves as suggested by Gelardi in order to hold a booklet or literature card such that the booklet or literature card is disposed between the disc-shaped items of recorded media when the disc-shaped items of recorded media are carried by the page halves. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicants invention was made to have modified the front and rear cover members in Brinkhurst to completely cover the page as taught by Gelardi so that the outer perimeter of the page is directly disposed between the front and rear cover members when the front and rear covers are closed on the page in order to produce a storage container for holding items of recorded media.

11. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brinkhurst (GB 2 274452 A) in view of Gelardi (US 5,799,782) and in view of Udwin et al. (US 6,106,015).

Brinkhurst and Gelardi teach the storage container as detailed above. However, Brinkhurst fails to disclose the page halves being connected together with a weld. Udwin et al. teaches that is old and well-known in the analogous art to have page halves connected together with a weld (see col. 6, lines 11 and 56) for the purpose of connecting the page halves together to attach to the spine of a binder to form a booklet for storing collectibles such as CDs. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicants invention was made to have the page halves in Brinkhurst connected together with a weld as suggested by Udwin et al. in order to connect the page halves together to attach to the spine to form a booklet for storing compact discs.

Response to Arguments

12. Applicant's arguments filed 1/26/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues "Claim 35 requires the claimed storage container to have a substantially rigid plastic page that is formed from first and second page halves that were separately formed and joined together to form the page. The page that is formed by the page halves is the one that is adapted to hold a pair of discs. To the contrary, Brinkhurst '452 discloses a single unitary page (13) adapted to hold a pair of discs or a plurality of unitary, double disc-holding pages (13) that are hingedly connected together (page 6, lines 21-25) – like the pages of a book. Nothing in Brinkhurst '452 discloses or suggests the structure of each of the pages. The page recited in claim 35 is thus significantly different than the Brinkhurst '452 pages described in the material cited by the Examiner".

However, it is to be pointed out that Brinkhurst '452 discloses the page (13) can be two or more pages (13) "arranged side-by-side and hingedly connected together, *or separately connected* to the strip" (see page 6, lines 21-25). Therefore, the plurality of pages (13) disclosed in Brinkhurst '452 can be separately connected to the strip (spine) and do not have to be hingedly connected together. Thus, Brinkhurst '452 clearly teaches a page having first and second page halves wherein the first and second page halves have been separately formed and non-pivotably joined together to form the page, as recited in claim 35.

Applicant then argues "McKowen does not disclose the V-shaped page recited in the claim...The V-shaped gaps cited by the Examiner are formed between adjacent signatures 12 – not on the edges of the pages. Each page of McKowen's structure thus does not have an edge

that is V-shaped in cross-section as required by the claim. In fact, most of the McKowen pages do not touch the adhesive because they are disposed in the middle of a page bundle”.

However, it is to be pointed in Figure 1 of McKowen that the edges of the pages (12) are clearly V-shaped in cross-section and clearly the V-shaped edge is indented into the page (12). McKowen clearly teaches the edges of the pages (12) being V-shaped in cross-section to provide a pocket for an adhesive (18) and the V-shaped edge being indented into the page to define the pocket for the adhesive (18) in order to connect the pages to the spine of the cover. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicants invention was made to have modified the edge of the page in Brinkhurst to be V-shaped in cross-section to provide a pocket for the adhesive and have the V-shaped edge being indented into the page to define the pocket for the adhesive as suggested by McKowen in order to connect the page to the spine of the cover.

Applicant further argues “the Gelardi tab teachings cited by the Examiner to disclose the location of a literature card do not suggest the claimed literature card configuration. Gelardi discloses that a literature card may be on one side of disc-holding page – not within the page”.

However, in Figures 13 and 14, it is to be pointed out that Gelardi discloses a page having first and second page halves (elements 3 and 63) and that tabs (19) are placed on both sides of the page halves (see Figs. 13 and 14) in order to hold a booklet (see col. 3, lines 14-16 and 45-47). Therefore, when a booklet is held in the tabs of one of the page halves and the page halves are in closed position, the booklet would be disposed within the page between the first and second page halves. Thus, Gelardi clearly teaches a literature card (booklet) being disposed within the page between the first and second page halves as recited in claim 27.

Furthermore, Applicant argues “The Brinkhurst ‘452 teaches away from the arrangement recited in claim 30...the Examiner has not identified any material in Gelardi that discloses the cover configuration recited in the claim”.

However, Gelardi clearly teaches a storage container wherein the outer perimeter of the page is directly disposed between the front cover member and the rear cover member when the front and rear covers are closed on the page. In Figures 13 and 14 of Gelardi, it is shown that plates 41 and 43 are mounted on the end edges of the page (elements 3 and 63) in order to retain the edges of the covers (see col. 3, lines 33-36 and col. 4, lines 38-41). Therefore, when the front and rear covers (elements 23 and 45) are closed on the page (elements 3 and 63), the outer perimeter of the page (elements 3 and 63) is disposed directly between the front cover member and the rear cover member (elements 23 and 45). Thus, Gelardi clearly teaches the outer perimeter of the page being directly disposed between the front cover member and the rear cover member when the front and rear covers are closed on the page, as recited in claim 30.

Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicant's invention was made to have modified the front and rear covers in Brinkhurst ‘452 to where the outer perimeter of the page is disposed directly between the front and rear covers when the front and rear covers are closed on the page as suggested by Gelardi in order to produce a storage container for holding items of recorded media.

Conclusion

13. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Catherine Simone whose telephone number is (571)272-1501. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00.

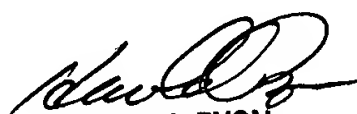
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon can be reached on (571) 272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Catherine A. Simone
Examiner
Art Unit 1772
March 28, 2006



HAROLD PYON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
1772 3/29/06